

THE ANTI-SLAVERY BUGLE.

INTERESTING SLAVE CASE.

KIDNAPPING AND CONSPIRACY.

Much excitement was produced in this city and Brooklyn last week by the discovery that a fugitive slave had arrived at this port in the Steamer Florida from Savannah, had been either by the order or with the connivance of the owners of the steamer, illegally seized or confined, with the intent to send him back to his master in the same steamer upon her return voyage. The facts in the case are reported as follows:

The fugitive was 24 years of age and bore the name of his white father, James Reid, a physician of Charleston, South Carolina. His more familiar cognomen was "Jeems". He was a great favorite with his master and the numerous patrons of a saloon where he was employed. During the "hot" period of a slave's life, and having carefully studied his plans, he started from Charleston and pursued his way, partly on foot, to Savannah without molestation. The witnesses of his skin doubtless enabled him to make his way to Savannah where he was concealed for a time by a friend, but on the 25th he went on board the steamer Florida and paid for a stowage passage, no one suspecting him of being a slave.

His master, it seems, traced him to Savannah, and suspecting he had taken passage in the Florida, sent a telegraphic dispatch to the owners of the steamer, or to Mayor Wood (so at least it is said), requesting that the vessel should be searched upon her arrival, and the fugitive, if found, arrested and returned. It is possible, though we are not informed upon this point, that the papers necessary to authorize his detention under the Fugitive Slave Law were forwarded, but had not been received when the steamer arrived.

On Saturday, November 25th, the Florida, upon her arrival at the Upper Bay, was boarded by two special policemen, who informed Capt. Cromwell that he had a fugitive slave on board. The Times thus relates what followed:

"The officers produced a description of the property, and the Captain protested that no such person was on board, but to no effect. The matter, a search was instituted. Every passenger on board the boat was examined, but the officers were not able to designate their man. Determined to arrest somebody, however, they finally selected a man very nearly answering the description furnished them, and seized him. Fortunately this man, who was white and had never been any man's slave, had several responsible friends on board who testified to his being a free man. The officers reluctantly released the suspicious party and allowed him to go, but to no effect. The man, who was the third or fourth time, with their insinuations sharpened by numerous disappointments, they thought they discovered, after a close examination, that he answered the description. So taking him before an officer of the law, they proceeded to search him. The right man was found, they quietly stowed away the piece of property in a stateroom, and taking the boat returned to the pier, No. 1 North River, where it arrived about dark. Jeems was kept in the stateroom until nearly 10 o'clock, when he was taken in charge by Special Policemen Jackson and Cowen, appointed for duty on pier No. 1 North River. These officers, without any pretense of legal authority, conveyed the fugitive across Hamilton Avenue ferry to Brooklyn, where they proceeded to the grocery and boarding-house of Thomas McNulty, corner of Dikeman and Seligman streets. Here an arrangement was made with the proprietor for accommodations. A room in the second story of the building was taken and occupied by the fugitive and his two companions, who were relieved in their arduous duty by the arrival of Timothy K. Mason and Thomas Lawler, two other 'specials'. In this condition the party remained until Tuesday, the 1st inst., the officers alternately acting as a bodyguard to the prisoner."

It is reported—We know not upon what authority—that these four special policemen undertook to detain "Jeems", till the day of the steamer departure for Savannah (Wednesday, Dec. 2), and then to put him securely on board, for the sum of \$1,000. The steamer, however, did not leave until the 2nd inst., and the fugitive was not taken on board. The occupant of the building used for a prison, was to have \$100 more. The money it is understood, was to be paid by the managers of the boat. We should like to know the names of some of these conspirators and kidnappers, and in the meantime, we can only commend the churches they offer up their prayers for.

But the conspirators were defeated in the attempt to return "Jeems" to bondage. In some way, we know not how, certain friends of Humanity, who were informed of what was going on. On Tuesday, Dec. 1st, Mr. Theodore Tilton, one of the editors of the Independent, made an affidavit that a man was restrained of his liberty at the place above named, whereupon the Hon. Eustace M. Hart, Judge of the Brooklyn City Court, issued a *habeas corpus*, addressed to Thomas McNulty, and to his servants and agents, and to every and any persons having in charge, detaining or keeping, the person so detained, commanding him or any of them, to have the body of the person so detained, before him, at his office, No. 114 South Ninth street, Brooklyn, forthwith. And lest this writ should somehow be spirited away before he could be relieved by *habeas corpus*, Judge Culver, as he is authorized to do by the statute, issued his warrant, commanding the sheriff of the county, or any constable, forthwith, to "take the alleged colored man and bring him forthwith before him." This writ and warrant were placed in the hands of constables Oliver and Totten, who, accompanied by the Deputy Clerk of the Court, proceeded to the place named. Harris proceeded at once to McNulty's den, where they found "Jeems" in the custody of policemen Timothy K. Mason and Thomas Lawler, who were a good deal frightened when they found they were detected in their attempt at kidnapping. The officers took "Jeems" at once to Judge Culver's house where they arrived about 10 o'clock in the evening. McNulty and the policemen did not follow, but postponed their return to the *habeas corpus* till the next morning. Judge Culver, finding no evidence that his detention was legal, discharged him at once, and it is generally supposed that he concluded to proceed immediately in the direction of the North Star. If the owner wishes to find his lost chattel, we advise him to make inquiry for him of the full-master of the Niagara. Suppose, however, if he fails to discover him by this means, we fear it will not be in our power to give him further light.

On Wednesday morning, when McNulty and the four special policemen, John Jackson, John Cowen, Timothy K. Mason and Thomas Lawler, who had taken turns in watching "Jeems" on Tuesday, came to respond to the *habeas corpus*, they were all arrested on two separate charges of conspiracy and kidnapping, and required to give bail. The bail under the charge for kidnapping was fixed at \$3,000; upon that for conspiracy, \$1,500. Mr. Thomas DeWitt, of No. 282 Atlantic street, Brooklyn; and Mr. Samuel Auld, of No. 21 West street, New York, signed the bonds for the appearance of the defendants, on the first Monday in January next.

The following is the section of the statute applicable to this case:

"Any person who shall, without the authority of law, forcibly remove or attempt to remove from this State, any fugitive from service or labor, or any person who is claimed as a fugitive, shall forfeit the sum of \$500 to the party aggrieved, and shall be deemed guilty of the crime of kidnapping, and upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment in the State Prison for a period not exceeding ten years."

If these villains escape the punishment due to their crime, it will not be for the want of an upright and incorruptible administration of justice. Judge Culver has a proper sense of the wickedness of such an attempt to enslave a fellow creature, and will tolerate none of the dodges by which such men usually contrive to break through the meshes of the law.

But the guilt of the parties to this crime—the wealthy owners of the steamer—will not even be arraigned therefor. Captain Cromwell, we hope, will be promptly arrested when next he arrives at this port.

The Times, in its account of this affair, thus describes the fugitive:

"A white man, in the advertisement offering a large reward for his capture, it is stated that 'he is so near white that he would readily pass for a white man, and is careful enough to call himself so.' The advertisement speaks the truth, as it will be seen that he succeeded in passing himself off as a white man on board the steamer, and that even the officers, who had a full description of his person, failed to detect him before they dare charge him with owing labor and service to a master. Jeems is even gentle. He is very good-looking, too. With his hair on; to conceal a few waves in his hair, he might walk Broadway all day, and never once suggest the suspicion that any dark blood flowed in his veins."

The same paper enlightens us as to "Jeems'" plan of escape:

"About two years ago, 'Jeems', tired of working for a master, resolved upon escaping to the North. With this object always in view whenever opportunity offered, he added to his stock of knowledge until now he can read quite well, for one who has labored under so many disadvantages. Besides storing his mind with useful information, by practicing the closest economy he was enabled to store his pockets with the wherewithal to aid him in his contemplated escape when opportunity should offer. During this time he formed the acquaintance of a free mulatto girl who was gifted with more than ordinary intelligence for one in the position she was in. It was such an acquaintance as commended to him, and he was not slow to take her directions that he acted after acquaintance commenced. To enable them the better to carry out the plan of escape devised, one year ago they were united in marriage, the master consented, as he said, 'to make his slave more contented.' After the marriage the bride started for the North, and sought and found employment in Philadelphia, at which place she remained until Friday last, when she came to this city to meet her husband. Wherever he is, doubtless, she is with him now."

GOV. WALKER'S LETTER.

The following is a sketch of the letter of R. J. Walker, resigning the office of Governor of Kansas, to Hon. Lewis Cass, Secretary of State, Washington, City: Sir: I resign the office of Governor of the Territory of Kansas. I have been most reluctantly forced to this conclusion after anxious and careful consideration of my duty to the country, to the people of Kansas, to the President of the U. S., and to myself. The grounds assumed by the President in his late message to Congress, and in recent instructions in connection with the events now transpiring here in Kansas, are, in my opinion, as Governor of this Territory, it will no longer be in my power to preserve peace or promote the public welfare. At the earnest solicitation of the President, after repeated refusals, the last being in substance, 'I fully accept of your resignation, and I shall continue to perform the duties of the office until a successor is appointed,' I have reluctantly agreed to resign the office of Governor of this Territory, and to leave the Territory on the 20th of March next. I have, however, in my resignation, clearly understood by the President and all his Cabinet; they were distinctly set forth in my last letter of acceptance of this office on the 20th of March last, and reiterated in my inaugural address on the 20th of March last.

With these views well known to the President and Cabinet, and approved by them, I accepted the appointment of Governor of Kansas. My instructions from the President, through the Secretary of State, under date of the 13th of March last, sustain the regular legislative of the Territory in assuming a convention to form a Constitution, and they express the opinion of the President that when such a constitution shall be submitted to the people of the Territory, they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against that institution, and that the fair expression of their will must not be interrupted by fraud or violence. I repeat then, as my clear conviction, that unless the convention should submit the constitution to the vote of all the actual resident settlers in Kansas, and not to a select body of men, the constitution, if submitted, would be rejected by Congress. His inaugural most distinctly asserted that it was not the question of slavery, merely, which I believed to be of little practical importance, and that the question was, whether the constitution, if submitted, should be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection.

After quotation from the President's inaugural, Governor Walker refers as follows to his course as Governor of Kansas, and its good effects: The power and responsibility being devolved upon me by the President of using the Federal army in Kansas to suppress insurrection, the alternative was distinctly presented to me by questions propounded at Topeka for arresting revolution by the slaughter of the people, or of preventing, together with civil war, which would have extended throughout the Union. My solemn assurance was given that the right of the people to frame their own government, so far as my power extended, should be maintained; but for this assurance it is a conceded fact that the Topeka Convention, then assembled in legislative session, would have been put into immediate actual operation, and that sanguinary collision with the Federal army and civil war, must have ensued, and extended, if I had not, as I did, by the use of the Federal army, in the nature of proclamations so often issued by me, as Governor of that Territory to those people my first obligations were due, I endeavored to secure to them these rights.

The insurrection was by some that I should see the Federal Constitution and the Kansas Nebraska Bill overturned and disregarded, and that playing the part of a mute in a pantomime of ruin, I should acquiesce by my silence in such a result, especially where such acquiescence involved, as a consequence, a disunion of the Union, and a sanguinary civil war seems to me most preposterous. Not a drop of blood has been shed by the federal troops in Kansas during my administration, but in the nature of proclamations so often issued by me, as Governor of that Territory to those people my first obligations were due, I endeavored to secure to them these rights.

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the beginning of his career, he was identified with some of the odious measures of the Anti-Slavery party, but the same salutary influence to which he owes the improvement in his manners, wrought a wholesome change in his political opinions. At first an advocate of Wilmore's provision, he progressed to the point of avowed opposition to any restriction on the expansion of Southern institutions. In support of the Fugitive Slave Law, and the Kansas Nebraska act he displayed a firmness and a vigor which gave him the confidence of the State Rights Democracy. Altogether he ranked among the really hopeful statesmen of the country, and was regarded as a possible President by a large number of enterprising office-hunters."

The South closes its bill of excommunication as follows:

"In a speech delivered at the capital of Illinois during the last Summer, Judge Douglas explicitly declared the idea of a reference of the Constitution to the people, and the subsequent ratification of the Lecompton Convention, and committed himself to abide its action. And yet again, he supported the bill proposed by Senator Toombs at the last session of Congress, which pointedly excluded the people from the ratification of the Constitution of Kansas for popular ratification. In fact, his change of position is as sudden as it is violent, and is precisely that sort of conversion which implies either the miraculous agency of immediate inspiration, or the subtle influence of corrupt motives. The Senator has never been suspected of any intimate converse with the inhabitants of Heaven; but neither is he thought to be inaccessible to the approaches of the Evil One. In an opinion so signal and incapable of explanation, on the hypothesis of a sincere and upright judgment, the world will scarcely be at a loss to detect the operation of an ambition that would sacrifice every obligation of patriotism to the gratification of its own unchartered desires."

GENERAL WALKER'S ALLIES IN WASHINGTON.

We stated yesterday our impressions in regard to the complicity of the Administration in General Walker's movements in Nicaragua. We find in the *Herald* this morning a letter apparently from an officer of the United States steamship Saratoga, which confirms our impressions. He speaks of a visit Walker made to the Saratoga shortly after his arrival, and his public assurance to the commander that he had undertaken his expedition with the connivance of the government. We quote the pertinent features of this letter:

"United States Ship Saratoga." San Juan del Norte, or Greytown, Nicaragua, Nov. 30, 1857. "Gen. Walker having expressed a desire to come on board, a boat was sent for him, in charge of an officer. "As he was about to leave the ship he remarked to our captain that he seldom requested favors, but that he was now making an exception, and requested that he might be permitted to land on the shore, and to remain there for a few days. He mentioned, also, that he would not have started on this expedition, had he not been aware that the government was not inclined to prevent him. "The Fashion's papers were examined and found correct, having as passengers 196 on board."

The writer of this letter would appear to have been present at the interview he describes, and probably was an officer of the Saratoga. That Walker should have been discharged from arrest on \$2,000 bail at New Orleans; allowed to enter Nicaragua in violation of his bond, under the guns of an American frigate, and finally entertained on board of that frigate, and allowed to impute complicity in his crimes to the government at Washington, without some talismanic spell which all government dependents respect, is to the last degree improbable, not to say impossible.

Is not this the first act in the Cuban drama of which the scene is to be laid in part at Madrid and part in the Gulf of Mexico?—N. Y. Ec. Post.

The Anti-Slavery Bugle.

SALEM, OHIO, DECEMBER 26, 1857.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR.

The SALEM ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR will open for the sale of Goods at 11 o'clock, A. M., on Thursday the 24th inst., and be continued through that and the following day. The Managers of the Fair have already received a variety of most valuable contributions. And the display of rare, fancy and useful articles, will not be surpassed by that of any former occasion. It is confidently hoped that friends of the cause will take pains to purchase from this Stock such articles as they need, either for holiday presents or for other uses. Such purchases will as readily serve the cause as their contributions in money. Such as may not be able to attend and may send their orders, will find them promptly attended to.

A refreshment table will be kept in the Hall, accessible at all times, for which contributions are solicited. Contributions may be sent to the care of the Editor of the Bugle, or to Joel M. Millan, Salem. These contributions may consist of any of the products of your farms or your workshops, grain of all kinds, fruit, preserved or otherwise, poultry, eggs, butter, cream, cheese—stone ware, furniture, shoes—clothing of all kinds, as well as fancy articles.

The Committee also request contributors to forward early, when convenient, before the day of opening the Fair.

KANSAS AND ITS CONSTITUTIONS.

There are two constitutions now before the people of Kansas, already framed and completed for their adoption and government. Mr. Banks in the United States House of Representatives and Mr. Douglas in the Senate, have each presented bills to authorize the people of that Territory to form another; so that if the people fail to get a good one at last, it will not be for want of any desirable number from which to choose; if indeed they shall be permitted the privilege of making a choice, which is the question now agitating the President and Congress at Washington. Of the two constitutions now already completed—the Topeka and Lecompton, both are essentially and positively pro-slavery and unfit for adoption by any people, who honestly regard the rights of man on the future liberties, honor and welfare of this young State.

The Topeka Constitution was framed and adopted by what are called the Free-State men, and the Free State Party, of Kansas, and yet it is in fact as positively pro-slavery as its Lecompton rival. The Border Ruffians indeed have descended more into revolting details and specifications and made their works unalterable. But both defy Heaven, outrage mankind and insult liberty, by recognizing the right of slavery on Kansas soil. It is so, that it concedes the right of slave-hunting in all its territory, and the validity of all existing congressional slave hunting laws; in that it recognizes the rights of existing slaveholders in the Territory. And is at best, essentially pro-slavery, in that it disfranchises and proscribes the colored citizens of the Territory, who are notwithstanding marked with the appellation of "Free men."

The Lecompton Constitution provides as follows, in regard to colored persons, bond and free. Its provisions in regard to colored persons not slaves is summary and emphatic: "Free Negroes shall not be permitted to live in the State under any circumstances."

Judge Tane's decision tersely put. They are to be expelled, exterminated or enslaved.

The slavery article in the Constitution is as follows:

ARTICLE VII.—Slavery.

Sec. 1. The right of property is before and higher than any constitutional sanction, and the right of the owner of a slave to such slave and its increase is the same and as inevitable as the right of the owner of any property whatever.

Sec. 2. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of the owners, or without paying their owners previous to their emancipation a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to the State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States or Territories, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State; provided that such person or slave be the bona fide property of such emigrant; and provided, also, that laws be passed to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves who have committed high crimes in other States or Territories. They shall have power to pass laws to permit the owner of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have power to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity, to provide for them the necessary food and clothing, to abstain from all injuries to them extending to life or limb, and in case their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves sold for the benefit of the owner or owners.

Sec. 3. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of a higher grade than petty larceny, the Legislature shall have no power to deprive them of an impartial trial by a petit jury.

Sec. 4. Any person who shall maliciously dismember or deprive a slave of life, shall suffer such punishment as may be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed on a free white person and on the like proof, except in case of insurrection of such slave.

The clause of the constitution to which Mr. Douglas specially objects—which provides for its enforcement without being submitted to the people is as follows:

"[11.] Before this constitution shall be sent to Congress for admission into the Union as a State, it shall be submitted to all the white male inhabitants of the Territory of Kansas, who shall be qualified to vote in the election of the President of the United States, on the 21st day of December, 1857, at the different election precincts now established by law, or which may be established as herein provided, in the Territory of Kansas, an election shall be held, over which shall preside three judges, or a majority of them, to be appointed as follows: The President of this Convention shall appoint three commissioners in each county of the Territory, whose duty it shall be to appoint three judges in each of the several precincts of their respective counties, and to establish precincts for voting, and to cause polls to be opened at such places as they may deem proper in their respective counties; at which election the constitution framed by this Convention shall be submitted to all the white male inhabitants of the Territory of Kansas, who shall be qualified to vote in the election of the President of the United States, on the 21st day of December, 1857, at the different election precincts now established by law, or which may be established as herein provided, in the Territory of Kansas, an election shall be held, over which shall preside three judges, or a majority of them, to be appointed as follows: The President of this Convention shall appoint three commissioners in each county of the Territory, whose duty it shall be to appoint three judges in each of the several precincts of their respective counties, and to establish precincts for voting, and to cause polls to be opened at such places as they may deem proper in their respective counties; 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